

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STOCKH 01400 311155Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 /032 W

-----010715Z 090897 /23-11

R 311037Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0202

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 1400

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, UR, SW

SUBJ: LATVIAN PASTOR - GRIVANS

REF: STATE 68807

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS IN MARCH 10 EDITIONS OF STOCKHOLM DAILY NEWSPAPERS DAGENS NYHETER AND SVENSKA DABLADET, HUGO MAXIMILJANS GRIVANS, NOW 76, LEFT LATVIA ON MARCH 4 AND, BY WAY OF LENINGRAD, ARRIVED IN STOCKHOLM SEVERAL DAYS LATER TO BE REUNITED WITH HIS 77-YEAR OLD WIFE AND ONE LIVING SON. MRS. GRIVANS AND TWO SONS HAD FLED LATVIA IN 1944. ONE SON DIED IN SWEDEN IN JANUARY 1975.

2. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE IN STOCKHOLM ON MARCH 9, GRIVANS DESCRIBED IN GREAT DETAIL HIS IMPRISONMENT IN VARIOUS SOVIET LABOUR CAMPS OVER A PERIOD OF SIXTEEN YEARS, FROM 1948 TO 1956 AND FROM 1958 TO 1966, THE HARASSMENT FROM SOVIET AUTHORITIES SUFFERED FOR HIS RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL VIEWS SINCE THE INCORPORATION OF LATVIA INTO THE SOVIET UNION, AND HIS REPEATED AND UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS WITH AUTHORITIES IN RIGA TO OBTAIN AN EXIT PERMIT.

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PAGE 02 STOCKH 01400 311155Z

3. IN ADDITION TO RECOUNTING HIS PAST, THE ARTICLES CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING QUOTES FROM GRIVANS' STATEMENTS. QUOTE: THE EVANGELICAN-LUTHERAN CHURCH OPERATES WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY IN LATVIA. A NUMBER OF REGULATIONS PREVENT ITS FULL ACTIVITY. A CHURCH MINISTER, FOR EXAMPLE, MAY SPEAK ONLY IN HIS OWN CHURCH. IF HE WISHES TO SPEAK ELSEWHERE, HE MUST RECEIVE

PERMISSION FROM THE AUTHORITIES. A HEAVY BURDEN HAS BEEN REMOVED NOW THAT I AM IN A FREE COUNTRY. I THANK THE GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN WHICH HAS ALLOWED MY FAMILY TO RESIDE IN A FREE SOCIETY WHERE THEY ARE NOW CITIZENS. QUOTE.

4. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, THE LATVIAN CENTRAL COUNCIL IN SWEDEN WILL HELP GRIVANS TO CONTINUE WORKING AS A MINISTER AS LONG AS HE IS FIT ENOUGH TO DO SO, PROBABLY AMONG THE LATVIAN CONGREGATION IN GOTEBORG WHERE HIS SON RESIDES.

5. EMBASSY POUCHING COMPLETE TEXT OF BOTH ARTICLES TO DEPARTMENT (EUR/NE).

SMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, HARASSMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE, DISSIDENT FACTIONS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LATVIAN PASTOR - GRIVANS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UR, SW, CSCE, (GRIVANS, HUGO MAXIMILJANS)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
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